

Order No. 870

OKANOGAN-WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST
Scenic Highway 20 Corridor Area Closure

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), to protect natural resources and property provided in the area described in the Federal Register Volume 5, No. 75, the following acts are prohibited on the portion of the Mount Baker- Snoqualmie National Forest that is administered by the Methow Valley Ranger District on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

1. Being on National Forest System Lands for the purpose of Mining, including Dredging, Panning, High-banking, Water Boxing, Sluice Boxing or any type of mineral removal in the area withdrawn from mining by the Federal Register and in the description of the area closure provided in the attached document Exhibit A that describes the closed area in the Scenic Highway 20 Corridor. Particularly that area described between the North Cascades National Park Boundary sign posted on State Highway 20 to the State Highway mile post number sign 148 (Ruby & Granite Creeks). 36 CFR 261.53 (f)

This restriction is effective the date signed below and will remain in effect until rescinded.

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force, in the performance of an official duty.

Done at Wenatchee, Washington this 6 day of August, 2014.



Michael L. Balboni
Forest Supervisor
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months or both. (16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559 and 3571).

Assessment of Need and Enforcement Plan

1. **Background** – The area described in the order is defined by the Federal Register to protect the Scenic Highway corridor. There is continued damage being caused by illegal mining in this area and documented by LE.

2. **Intent of Subpart B Order** – The intent of the order is to prevent further damage that is occurring in the described location by high banking and persons removing rocks, gravel and mosses while conducting mining activity.

The order shall remain in effect until no longer needed. The affected area includes portions of National Forest System.

3. **Enforcement Plan** – Post Order and described area attachments as required. Public notification may include press releases, web site posts, on-site posting and mailing to Associations or clubs.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Official(s)</u>	<u>Initials/Date</u>
Prepare proposed Order Recreation Staff/Engineer		
Prepare enforcement plan		
Review proposed Order & approve enforcement plan		
Approve Order	Forest Supervisor or Regional Forester (Deputy or Acting Should Not Sign)	
Post Order (36 CFR 261.51)	District Ranger/Forest Supervisor	
Prepare news releases for Order describing the order and management objectives Describe implementation/action taken for order, such as planned patrols, enforcement strategies, tolerance, contacts to local public agencies.	PAO (with Appropriate Staff/LEI)	
Implement plan	LEO/field going personnel	
<u>Michael Ballioni</u>		<u>8-6-14</u> Date